



# Challenges in International Transracial Adoptions

- Domestic transracial adoption

- Child is of a different race

- Child is of different domestic cultural group

- International adoption

- Child speaks different language
  - Child is of different culture
  - Child is immigrant (parents are not)
  - Child may have health/developmental complications

- International transracial adoption

- Above differences
  - Child is of different race





# Complexities of International Transracial Adoptions

Childrearing (normative biological families)

plus

Normative adoption issues

plus

Post-institutionalization issues

plus

Cross-cultural adoption issues

plus

Transracial adoption issues

Adoptive parents must consider these additional challenges

Relevance for identity development in adolescence





# E-RS Facets and Complexities

## E-RS Types

Cult. Socializ.  
Prep for Bias  
Promote Mistrust  
Egalitarianism

## Modality, etc.

Modality  
Level of involvement  
Structure  
Location

## Parent role

Approach to difference  
Beliefs/attitudes  
Ethnic racial identity  
Comfort level  
Confidence level  
Proactive/reactive  
Role in discussions

## Dev. Considerations


When, what to share  
When let child lead

## Contextual Considerations

Micro: Family/Peer/School  
Meso: PT, Birth Culture  
Exo: Ext family, Community, Adoption Supports  
Macro: Nat'l, Int'l issues  
Chrono: Hist. changes

## Child Engagement in Activities, Discussions

Frequency  
Purpose  
Interest  
Understanding





# E-RS Facets and Complexities

## E-RS Types

Cult. Socializ.  
Prep for Bias  
Promote Mistrust  
Egalitarianism

## Modality, etc.

Modality  
Level of involvement  
Structure  
Location

## Parent role

Approach to difference  
Beliefs/attitudes  
Ethnic racial identity  
**Comfort level**  
Confidence level  
**Proactive/reactive**  
**Role in discussions**

## Dev. Considerations

When, what to share  
When let child lead

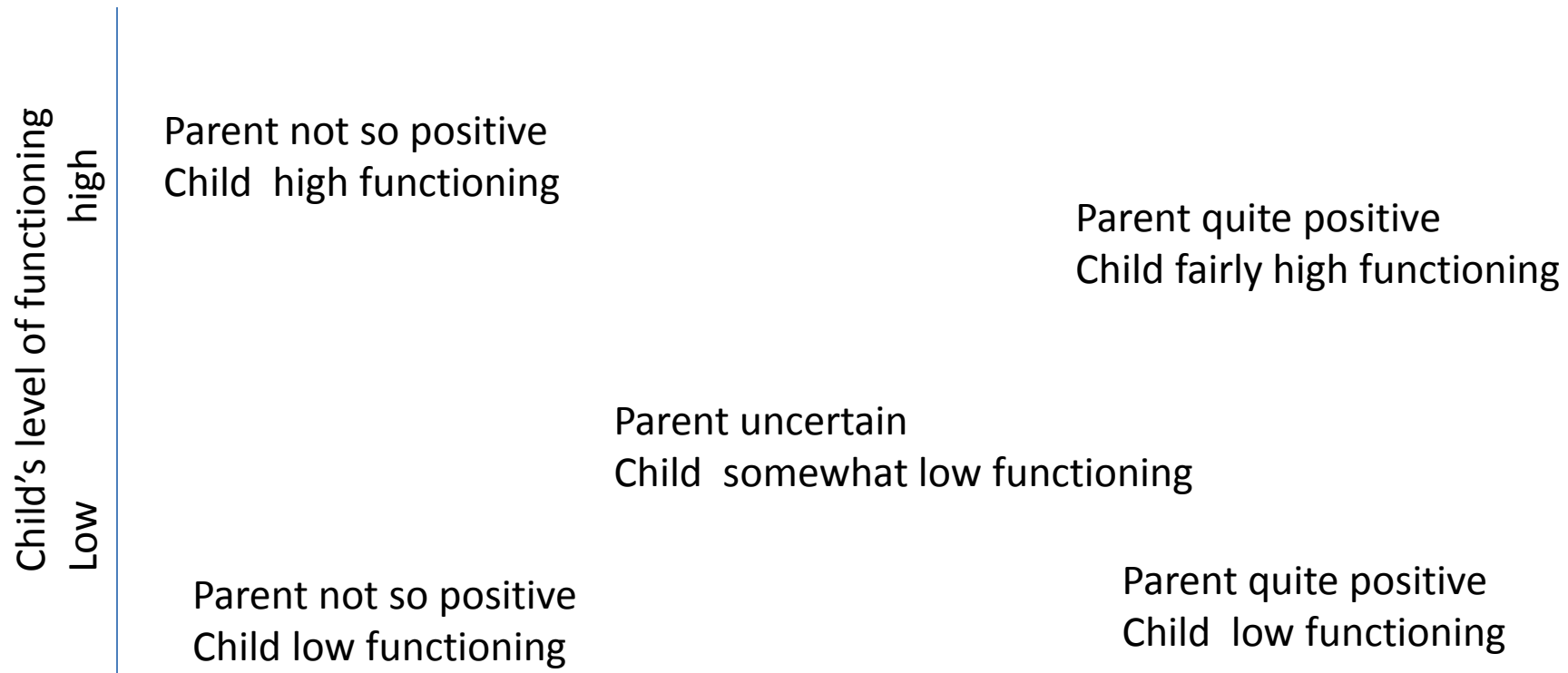
**Child/Teen**  
**Functioning**

## Contextual Considerations

Micro: Family/Peer/School  
Meso: PT, Birth Culture  
Exo: Ext family, Community,  
Adoption Supports  
Macro: Nat'l, Int'l issues  
Chrono: Hist. changes

## Child Engagement in Activities, Discussions

Frequency  
Purpose  
Interest  
Understanding



Parent's attitudes, comfort level with promoting ethnic identity  
Less positive/accepting/comfortable      more positive/accepting/comfortable

# Summary

Challenges for transracial adoptive families raising children with early deprivation/trauma

- Parent role
  - Own work regarding culture, race differences
  - Supports for this work often helpful
- Child role/needs
  - Developmentally appropriate discussions of E-RS
  - Consider support/socialization group specific for these needs